

STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

9. Describe your own encounter with Christ.
10. How does your life show others that Jesus is real?

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word “gospel” means “good news.” The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God’s presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God’s perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn’t end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at www.gbcmilescity.com.



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Small Group Study Guide
Pastor Jerry Coon – January 14, 2018

SERMON NOTES

Jesus Is The Real Deal 1 John 1:1-4

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— ²the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. (1 John 1:1-4)

1. He is real, and has revealed Himself from the beginning. The message is unchanging. The true gospel has always commanded faith and repentance.

FAITH:

(Ro. 10:17) *¹⁷So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

REPENTANCE:

(Luke 13:3) *³I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.*

(2 Pet. 3:9) *⁹The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

- a. We have heard
- b. We have seen
- c. We have looked upon
- d. We have handled

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SERMON NOTES

2. His life was experienced:
(v. 2) — ² *the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—*

The Apostle John had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. He knew Jesus face-to-face, watched Him, heard Him speak. They studied Him carefully and even touched Him.

3. This life is shared:
(v. 3-4) - ³ *that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.* ⁴ *And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

Five purposes for sharing Christ with us.

1. That we may have fellowship with other believers. (vs. 3)
2. That we may have “joy”. (Psalm 16:11) *...In Your presence is fullness of joy;*
3. This life is shared to us that we might not sin. (1 John 1:8-9)
4. That we may not be deceived.
(1 John 2:26) ²⁶ *These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you.*
(John 14:6) ⁶ *Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the TRUTH, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*
5. That we may know we are saved.
(John 5:13) ¹³ *These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*
(John 8:32) ³² *And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Read 1 John 1:1-4. Why is Jesus referred to as the “Word of Life?”
2. What is the difference between faith and repentance?
3. How would your faith be different today if you could have encountered Jesus face to face like John and the others? How would it be the same?
4. What is fellowship?
5. What is the difference between happiness and joy?
6. What are the most common ways people are deceived about the Gospel today?
7. How can we know that we are saved?
8. If we can know, why do we still doubt?

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